

Carol Lewis, Ph.D.

Carol Lewis is an associate professor in Transportation Studies and Director of the Center for Transportation Training and Research at Texas Southern University. Since joining the TSU faculty in 1992, she has conducted research for the Texas Department of Transportation, the Southwest Region University Transportation Consortium and Federal Highway Administration. As Center director, Ms. Lewis has organized and facilitated a number of conferences including a Dallas' light rail system conference.



Prior to joining TSU, Dr. Lewis spent 15 years as manager and director of planning at the Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County, where she was responsible for systemwide bus routing plans and METRO capital projects including Park & Ride, transit centers and rail planning. She also worked with local Texas Department of Transportation officials in planning Houston's first H.O.V. (then termed busway) on the Gulf Freeway.

Dr. Lewis also serves as executive assistant to Mayor Bill White for Transportation Planning. She belongs to the Transportation Technical Advisory Committee of the local Metropolitan Planning Organization and the American Red Cross Transportation Advisory Committee.

Dr. Lewis received a Ph.D from the University of Houston in Political Science with a concentration in public policy and public administration, a Master of Arts in Urban and Regional Planning, and a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from the University of Iowa.

J. Murry Bowden

J. Murry Bowden is co-chairman of The Hanover Company, a fully integrated real estate investment company specializing in developing and managing high quality multi-family residential properties. Mr. Bowden has been involved in real estate development for over 20 years, including all aspects of apartment development, construction and management.

Mr. Bowden graduated cum laude from Dartmouth College in Hanover, N.H., as a psychology major, and received his JD from the University of Texas. He is a member of the Urban League Institute and serves on the Multi-Family Council. He is past president and board member of the Post Oak Little League and former board member of the Houston Council on Alcoholism.

Medardo E. "Sonny" Garza

Medardo E. "Sonny" Garza is account manager for KHPT-FM radio in Houston. Prior to joining KHPT-FM, he had worked for KRBE-FM radio, KLDE-FM radio, Texas Business Magazine and the Houston Post.

Mr. Garza received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Journalism from the Louisiana State University. He serves on the board of the Eastwood Historical Commission, and has played an active role in supporting Stages Repertory Theater, Human Rights Campaign and Eastwood Civic Club. He also volunteered for the AIDS Foundation Houston and Omega House Hospice.

D. Fred Martinez, Ph.D., P.E.

D. Fred Martinez is chief executive officer of ASTER, L.P., a Houston-based construction and program management firm that has worked on projects including large scale, design-build civil infrastructure, airports and the Reliant Stadium. Since founding ASTER in 1993, Mr. Martinez has developed ASTER into a multimillion-dollar firm with offices in three states. Some of ASTAR's work includes the Interstate 15 corridor reconstruction project in Salt Lake City, Utah, City of Houston's Street and Bridge program, redevelopment of the Astrodomain complex and the T-REX, a transportation expansion project located in Denver, Colorado's Southeast corridor.

Mr. Martinez received a Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Civil Engineering from Texas A&M University. He also earned a Ph.D. in Civil Engineering from Century University. In 1992, he was named Texas Society of Professional Engineers' Young Engineer for the State of Texas. He has published numerous technical papers related to pavement technology.

Etan M. Mirwis

Etan M. Mirwis is president and principal owner of Rockwell Management Corp, a Houston-based company managing 20 apartment communities in the Houston area. He has been responsible for project-feasibility studies, due diligence analysis, acquisition, dispositions, market analysis and construction management on \$500 million worth of real estate.

Mr. Mirwis received a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting from Yeshiva University in New York. He is president and board member of the West Bellfort Property Owners Association. He serves on the boards of the Southwest Houston 2000, Inc., Houston Jewish Community Center and Israel Bonds Young Leadership. He is immediate past president and board member of the Young Israel of Houston.

Robin Reed

Robin Reed is president of Harry Reed & Co., a Houston real estate development firm, with whom she has been employed since 1977. She served as vice president of the Houston Apartment Association and the Texas Apartment Association. Ms. Reed received the Woman of the Year award in 1985 and the Owner of the Year by the Houston Apartment Association.

A native of Houston, Ms. Reed graduated from Memorial High School, and attended Stephens College in Columbia, Mo., the Institute of Allende – San Miguel de Allende, Mexico, and the University of Arizona in Tucson, Arizona.

Ms. Reed devotes a significant amount of her time performing volunteer work and community service including on the board of Big Brothers and Sisters of Houston. She served as a member of the Mayor's Task Force for Revising Building Permits, the Mayor's Task Force for Crime and on the Building and Standards Commission during Mayor Bob Lanier's administration.

Jeff Ross

Jeff Ross is principal-in-charge of the Houston office of Pate Engineers, Inc., and has nearly 30 years of experience in the planning and design of urban infrastructure systems for land development, utility districts, site development and public works projects.

Mr. Ross has extensive land development experience having worked on projects such as Royal Oaks County Club, Park Ten Business Park and Interwood Business Park, which required experience dealing with platting issues. He has been involved with committee work for the city of Houston land planning staff regarding electronic plat submittal and review procedures. He currently serves on an ad hoc committee with the city planning staff to define expanded residential and commercial development options to be included in Chapter 42 of the city's Code of Ordinances.

Mr. Ross received a B.S. in Civil Engineering from Rice University and a Master's degree in Public Administration from the University of Southern California. He served as president of the Cherryhurst Civic Club and Southampton Civic Club. He is former president of the Rice Engineering Alumni Association.

Lee D. Schlanger

Lee Schlanger is a partner at Schlanger, Mills, Mayer & Silver, LLP, a business-practice law firm. He concentrates his practice in real estate, financing and business counseling. He has advised on many transactions in excess of \$100 million, including the acquisition, redevelopment, financing and sale of one of Houston's major shopping malls, and the acquisition and development of commercial office parks, major office buildings, multi-family apartments and vacant land. Mr. Schlanger has also counseled with regard to the transition of ownership of family businesses, major workouts of troubled businesses and the resolution of complex commercial matters.

Mr. Schlanger is a native Houstonian, and studied at the University of Pennsylvania, Wharton School of Business and Finance (B.S. in Economics, 1962) and at Harvard University Law School (LLB Cum Laude, 1966). He is a member of the Houston Bar Association and State Bar of Texas, and has lectured at continuing legal education seminars on commercial real estate.

Shaukat Zakaria

Shaukat Zakaria is vice president and chief financial officer of ZakOil International, a conglomerate of limited partnerships and incorporated businesses. Under his leadership, multiple companies were formed and structured as independent business operations in support of the overall business enterprise. The companies established include the Lone Star Petroleum LP, Sugarland Petroleum, Inc., Sarah Oil LP, and most recently the Allied Star Construction & Consulting Company. Mr. Zakaria's responsibilities have included the research and assessment of real estate site locations, with a special emphasis targeting new business enterprises in blighted communities in the Houston metropolitan area.

Mr. Zakaria was born in Karachi, Pakistan, and came to Houston at age five. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Information from the University of Houston.

He serves on the Mayor's Advisory Board for International Affairs and Development, and has been actively involved in various organizations including the American Alliance of Justice and Peace, the Islamic Society of Greater Houston and the Pakistani Association of Greater Houston.